

Arizona Competitiveness Package Bill Signing

Thursday, February 17, 2011 Remarks by Gov. Jan Brewer

Good evening, everyone!

On Monday of this week -- STATEHOOD DAY – a time when we celebrated Arizona's 99th year as a state – I called a Special Session of the Legislature to launch the ARIZONA COMPETITIVENESS PACKAGE.

The comprehensive bill marked the rebirth of Arizona – so, it was an exciting moment on Monday. Well, tonight is an even more exciting moment.

Thanks to the hard work, dedication and diligence of President Pearce and Speaker Adams – the legislation has passed, and I'm about to sign it.

I'm grateful to members of the House and Senate for their support – and I'm grateful for the support of the business community -- including statewide Chambers of Commerce – for setting into place the first of my Four Cornerstones.

This evening, we're united in the understanding that a vibrant private sector economy is the key to Arizona's long term prosperity and fiscal health. The results will be employment and personal income growth and prosperity for business -- and our citizens.

Now, I know there are some naysayers out there.

They're telling us to slow down.

They're saying we're going too fast.

But, I have a message for them tonight.

We have no intention of slowing down.

This is not the time to be timid.

This is the time for boldness and courage! So, we're seizing that moment with this legislation ... And I will now sign the Arizona Competitiveness Package ...

Now, I'd like to turn the microphone over to Senate President Pearce to share his thoughts about the legislation I've just signed.

President Pearce ...

Thank you all for being here this evening to witness Arizona rising up -- standing in welcome contrast to other states.

Soon to be installed along Interstate 8 in Yuma is a 16 by 16 foot sign -- its image being shown here this evening. Travelers arriving from California will see a sign that says, "The Grand Canyon State Welcomes You."

The message is clear: Arizona is Open for Business. And, there is another message: We're serious about limiting the growth of the public sector – serious about restraining unnecessary regulation, and serious about firing up the engine of free enterprise.

Thank you, again, for being here.

May God bless you and your families and our Great State of Arizona. And may God always bless and protect the United States of America. Thank you.